(c) if not, whether Government would carry out such a study to improve financial performance of the public sector refineries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) No. Sir. However, the Government monitors financial performance of public sector companies, including their refining operations, through regular quarterly performance review meetings with reference to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) targets and previous year's performance. Gross refining margins of public sector refineries arc also reviewed at these meetings. Performance of the joint sector and the private sector refining companies is not similarly reviewed by the Government.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

International Airport at Shamsabad

2368. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a state of the art international airport is proposed to be constructed at Shamsabad. near Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the main features and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) what is the State Government's contribution thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a), to (c) The proposed international airport at Shamsabad near Hyderabad is being promoted on joint venture basis by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, with the help of Airports Authority of India (AAI). The State Government and AAI would jointly hold 26% of the equity, and balance 74% would be held by a Joint Venture Partner. A consortium, with M/s GMR/ MAHB has been selected as the preferred bidder by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, through a global bid process, in order to hold 74% stake of the Joint Venture (JV). The project is to be implemented in a phased manner and as per the proposal submitted by the preferred bidder, the cost of the Phasc-IA is Rs. 1104 crores

and the cost of Phase-IB is Rs. 339 crores. As per the latest information, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is extending its support by contributing land for the project as also external linkage infrastructure and airport approach road. Besides this, power and water supply are also to be made available by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

New International Airports

2369. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc opening new international airports keeping in view the "Open Sky Policy" to facilitate tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the details of the domestic airports which have been identified for further development as international airports; and

(d) what arc the details of the plans for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) There is no 'Open Sky Policy' for passenger traffic. In addition to the earlier five international airports, the Government has declared the airports at Bangalore, Goa, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Amritsar, Ahmedabad and the new Cochin Airport at Nedumbassery as international airports with effect from 23.5.2000. Proposals for development of new international airports at Shamshabad near Hyderabad, and Devanhalli near Bangalore, in lieu of the existing airports have been approved. Declaration of an airport as international airport will depend upon traffic potential and demand from airlines for operation of international flights. At present, there is no proposal to declare any other airport as international airport. However the airports at Calicut, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Lucknow and Varanasi arc having limited international operations and facilities arc being upgraded accordingly.